

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (currently amended): An outer cutter of a reciprocating type electric shaver in which an inner cutter makes sliding contact with an inside surface of a curved portion of said outer cutter, said curved portion being formed by bending a thin metal plate, which has a plurality of hair entry apertures, into a curved shape; wherein said curved portion is provided at both ends thereof with blocking portions that cover both ends of a space defined by said curved portion so as to prevent cut hair from being discharged to outside of said outer cutter, said blocking portions being formed integral and of a single unit with said curved portion by said thin metal plate, and a thickness of at least portions of said blocking portions including boundary areas between said curved portion and said blocking portions is set to be greater than a thickness of said curved portion.

Claim 2 (canceled).

Claim 3 (original): The outer cutter for an electric shaver according to Claim 1, wherein holes are formed in said boundary areas between said curved portion and said blocking portions.

Claim 4 (currently amended): An electric shaver comprising:

said outer cutter according to Claim 1[, 2] or 3,  
a supporting frame which supports said outer cutter in a detachable manner,  
an inner cutter which makes a reciprocating motion while making sliding contact with an inside surface of said outer cutter, and  
a main body case provided therein with a driving means that causes a reciprocating motion of said inner cutter and on an upper end thereof with said supporting frame.

Claim 5 (original): The electric shaver according to Claim 4, wherein a top portion of said curved portion of said outer cutter is positioned above a top portion of said supporting frame.